

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 NEA-11 IO-14 SAB-01 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 SCI-06 FEA-02 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20

RSC-01 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INT-08 CIEP-02

OMB-01 L-03 H-03 /150 W

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R 280722Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8389

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, DA

SUBJ: ENERGY: SOME PRELIMINARY DANISH THOUGHTS ON ENERGY CONFER-
ENCE

BEGIN SUMMARY: CONCERN OVER FAILURE OF MAJOR COMMUNITY COUNTRIES
TO SHOW COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE ON ENERGY POLICY IS DEEPLY DISTURBING
TO DANES.

FONOFF UNDER SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TOLD US HE HOPES US
WILL TAKE STRONG LEAD AT ENERGY CONFERENCE WITH SPECIFIC PROPOSALS
FOR COOPERATION, IMPLYING THAT DENMARK MIGHT BE WILLING TO FOLLOW US
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LEAD EVEN AGAINST MAJOR EC COLLEAGUES IF THIS PROMISES GREATER

ASSURANCES FOR DANISH ENERGY NEEDS THAN THEY HAVE SO FAR BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN FROM COMMUNITY. HE SPOKE WITH OBVIOUS PIQUE AT FRENCH AND BRITISH WHICH MAY WEAR SMOOTHER THROUGH COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS IN COMING WEEKS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN MEETING WHICH AMBASSADOR MALMGREN HAD WITH FONOFF UNDER SECRETARY JENS CHRISTENSEN JANUARY 24, BRIEF DISCUSSION ON ENERGY QUESTION PROVIDED FURTHER INSIGHT INTO CURRENT DANISH CONCERNS OVER THEIR OWN ENERGY SITUATION, THE STATE OF EC COOPERATION AND THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE. CHRISTENSEN, WHOSE WHOLE CAREER HAS BEEN FOCUSED ON EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS, WAS VERY DISCOURAGED ABOUT THE CURRENT STATE OF EC RELATIONS. HE SAW FRENCH ACTION IN FLOATING THE FRANC AS EFFECTIVELY SHELVEING ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION FOR THE TIME BEING WHICH, IN TURN, WOULD HAVE UNFAVORABLE EFFECT ON ENERGY COOPERATION AND, SPECIFICALLY, ON EC PREPARATIONS FOR THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

2. ON ENERGY MATTERS, HE THOUGHT IT WAS CLEAR THAT FRANCE AND UK DO NOT WANT COOPERATION FOR NEXT FEW MONTHS--OR PERHAPS EVEN YEAR. HE NOTED THEY SEEM POSITIVE ONLY ON EC COOPERATION IN DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY, SOMETHING NOT IMPORTANT TO DENMARK. IT IS OBVIOUS, HE SAID, THAT WHAT DENMARK NEEDS IS ASSURANCE OF CONTINUING PETROLEUM SUPPLY AT ACCEPTABLE PRICES. IT CANNOT COMPETE WITH MAJOR COUNTRIES IN BILATERAL DEALS. THIS GOING-IT-ALONE ATTITUDE OF THE MAJOR EC COUNTRIES NOT ONLY LEAVES DENMARK IN THE COLD BUT SERIOUSLY DISTURBS THE COOPERATIVE FOUNDATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY.

3. ON THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE, HE OBSERVED THAT DENMARK HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN OFFENDED AT NOT BEING AMONG ORIGINAL INVITEES. IT SAW NEED FOR SMALL GROUP OF CONSUMER COUNTRIES TO WORK OUT INITIAL ACTION PROGRAM. HE WAS, IN FACT, A BIT CONCERNED THAT ENLARGED GROUP MIGHT MAKE THE CONFERENCE MORE UNWIELDY. HE HOPED, THOUGH, THAT US WILL SET UP AGENDA IN MOST CONCRETE MANNER TO REDUCE POSTURING BY DELEGATES AND, IN PARTICULAR, TO KEEP FRENCH (IF THEY COME) AND BRITISH FROM LEADING CONFERENCE INTO GENERALITIES AND FOCUS ON OTHER FORUMS SUCH AS UN. HE FELT THAT US SHOULD BE PREPARED TO TELL CONFERENCE OF THE ACTION IT LANS TO AKE IN COOPERATION WITH OTHERS AND THEN ASK THOSE WHO WOULD

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FOLLOW TO DO SO. HE THOUGHT THAT ONLY A STRONG LINE BY THE US WOULD PROVIDE CHANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TRULY COOPERATIVE EFFORT AMONG CONSUMERS.

4. WITH CHRISTENSEN ASSENTING, HIS DEPUTY, AGERUP, ADDED THAT DANISH DELEGATE TO THE CONFERENCE WOULD NOT RECEIVE HAPPY RECEPTION BACK HOME IF HE CARRIED ONLY GOOD WILL AND, FO EXAMPLE, ASSURANCES OF ASSISTANCE TO LDCS. THE PROBLEM FOR DENMARK WAS TOO SERIOUS TO BE

ALTRUISTIC.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: DANISH GOVT HAS, AS YET, DONE O ORGANIZED THINKING ABOUT ENERGY CONFERENCE,PREFERRING TO WAIT FOR EC COMMISSION PROPOSALS. CHRISTENSEN'S VIEWS ARE THEREFORE MORE PERSONAL THAN OFFICIAL, ALTHOUGH HE WILL PLAYMAJOR ROLE IN DEVELOPING DANISH POSITION. CHRISTENSENREFLECTED BITTERNESS WE HAVE HEARD FROM FOREIGN MINISTER ON DOWN TO WORKING LEVELS ABOUT BRITISH, FRENCH AND OTHERS LOOKING SOLELY TO THEIR OWN INTEESTS ON ENERGY SUPPLIES WITHOUT CON-CERNOVER EFFECTS ON THEIR SMALLER COMMUNITY COLLEAGUES AND AT EXPENSE OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT. CHRISTENSEN, IN FACT, SEEMED TO IMPLY THAT DEN-MARK WOULD BE PREPARED TO TEAM UP WITH OTHERS (E.G; THE US) IN ENERGY COOPERATION WHETHER OR NOT MAJR EC COUNTRIES WENT ALONG.

6. THIS MESSAGE WAS DRAFTED AFTER AMBASSADOR MALMGREN'S DEPARTURE DUNNIGAN

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Message Attributes

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